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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/733,064 | 12/11/2000 | Johan Bennarsten | P00,1832 | 2760 |

7590 08/29/2003

Schiff, Hardin & Waite
Atten: Patent Department
6600 Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-6473

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

MENDOZA, MICHAEL G

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

3761

DATE MAILED: 08/29/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/733,064 | BENNARSTEN ET AL. |
| | Examiner Michael G. Mendoza | Art Unit 3761 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 August 2003 and 13 January 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 9 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 8 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed 8 August 2003, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-9 under 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Phuc 4543951.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Phuc 4543951.
5. Phuc teaches a high-frequency oscillator (HFO) ventilator comprising; a first gas conduit having an opening, a bias gas flow inlet and a bias flow outlet disposed to define therebetween a flow path (see figure); an oscillator for inducing pressure oscillations in gas within the first conduit to move the gas along a path intersecting the flow path for a bias gas alternately into and out of the opening at a predetermined high-frequency (col. 4, lines 53-68 through col. 5, lines 1-3), the oscillator comprising an

arrangement for alternately introducing a volume of additional gas, in addition to the bias gas into and withdrawing at least the volume of gas from the first gas conduit to induce the pressure oscillations (col. 5, lines 33-40); wherein the arrangement is the oscillators is disposed to introduce the volume of additional gas into the first gas conduit to intersect the bias flow path at a location proximal the opening; wherein the arrangement comprises a second gas conduit arranged to introduce additional gas into the first gas conduit in a direction toward the opening, a gas pulse generator connected to the second conduit which introduces a train of gas pulses into the second conduit with each pulse containing the volume of additional gas and being separated from a next pulse in the pulse train by an inter-pulse interval and an extraction device which withdraws gas from the first gas conduit at least in each inter-pulse interval (col. 4, lines 53-68 through col. 5, lines 1-3); wherein the extraction device is in gaseous communication with the second gas conduit; wherein the extraction device is in gaseous communication with the first gas conduit via a third gas conduit; wherein the extraction device is in gaseous communication with an end of the first gas conduit distal the opening; and wherein the extraction device is further co-operatively in gaseous communication with the bias flow outlet to vent the withdrawn gas (see figure).

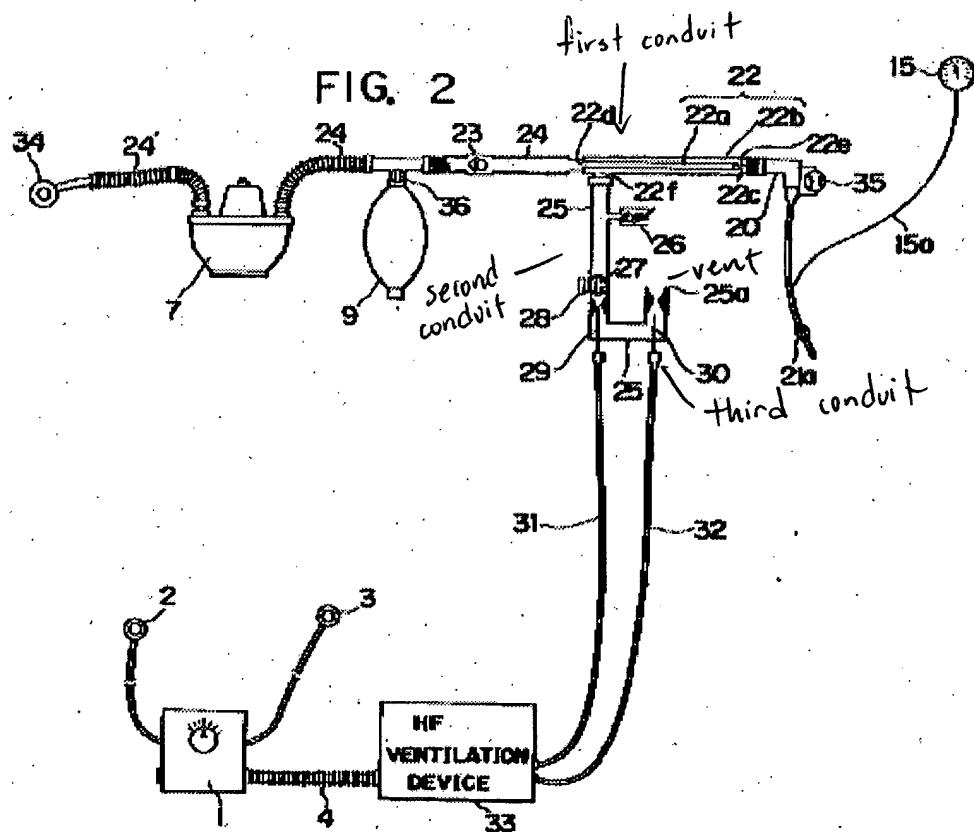
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 3761

7. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Phuc.
8. Phuc teaches an HFO ventilator as claimed in claim 1. It should be noted that Phuc fails to teach wherein the oscillator introduces a volume of gas of between one and four milliliters per kilogram weight of a patient as the volume of additional gas. However, Phuc does teach an HFO ventilator that is adapted for operation within a wide range of parameters (col. 5, lines 51-58). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the particulars as recited in the above claim depending on the needs of the user through routine observation and experimentation.



Claim Objections

9. Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael G. Mendoza whose telephone number is (703) 305-3285. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (703) 308-1957. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 306-4520 for regular communications and (703) 306-4520 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.

WLM

MM
August 28, 2003

Weilun Lo
WEILUN LO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700